

In the Claims

Applicant has submitted a new complete claim set showing marked up claims with insertions indicated by underlining and deletions indicated by strikeouts and/or double bracketing.

1-89. (Cancelled)

90. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 104, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide has a length of ~~[[8-30]]~~ 8-40 nucleotides.

91. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 90 or 104, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide has a ~~[[phosphate]]~~ modified phosphate backbone.

92. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 90 or 104, wherein at least one of the nucleotides of the CpG oligonucleotide has a phosphorothioate modified backbone.

93. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 104, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide is a stabilized oligonucleotide selected from the group consisting of nonionic DNA analogs, ~~[[such as alkyl- and aryl-phosphonates,]]~~ alkylphosphotriesters ~~[[in which the charged oxygen moiety is alkylated]]~~, and oligonucleotides containing a diol ~~[[, such as tetraethyleneglycol and hexaethyleneglycol]]~~.

94-95. (Cancelled)

96. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 104, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide has ~~[[less than 100]]~~ a length of 8-100 nucleotides.

97. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 96 or 104, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide comprises the formula:



wherein the C [[is]] and G are unmethylated and wherein X₁, X₂, X₃ and X₄ are nucleotides.

98. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 97, wherein the formula is preceded on the 5' end by a T.

99. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 96 or 104, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide is administered by [[a route selected from the group consisting of]] an oral route [[, transdermal, injection, intravenous, parenteral, intraperitoneal, and intrathecal]].

100. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 96 or 104, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide is administered [[with]] in an oligonucleotide delivery complex.

101. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 100, wherein the oligonucleotide delivery complex is selected from the group consisting of a sterol [[, a cholesterol,]] and a lipid [[, a cationic lipid, a virosome, and a liposome]] .

102-103. (Cancelled)

104. (Currently Amended) A method for treating a bacterial infection in a subject, comprising:
administering to a subject in need thereof a CpG oligonucleotide in an effective amount to treat the bacterial infection, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide [[has a stabilized backbone]] is a stabilized oligonucleotide.

105-132. (Cancelled)

133. (New) The method of claim 90, 96 or 104, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide does not include a GCG trinucleotide at a 5' and/or 3' terminal.

134. (New) The method of claim 90, 96 or 104, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide does not contain a 5' $X_1X_2CGX_3X_4$ 3' palindrome.

135. (New) The method of claim 133, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide does not contain a 5' $X_1X_2CGX_3X_4$ 3' palindrome.

136. (New) The method of claim 90, 96 or 104, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide has a phosphorothioate modified phosphate backbone.

137. (New) The method of claim 135, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide has a phosphorothioate modified phosphate backbone.

138. (New) The method of claim 90, 96 or 104, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide has a phosphorothioate modification at a terminal internucleotide linkage.

139. (New) The method of claim 137, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide has a phosphorothioate modification at a terminal internucleotide linkage.

140. (New) The method of claim 90, 96 or 104, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide includes phosphorothioate modification at the first and last internucleotide linkages.

141. (New) The method of claim 90, 96 or 104, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide is administered by injection.

142. (New) The method of claim 90, 96 or 104, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide is administered by transdermal route.

143. (New) The method of claim 96, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide has a modified phosphate backbone.

144. (New) The method of claim 96, wherein at least one of the nucleotides of the CpG oligonucleotide has a phosphorothioate modified backbone.

145. (New) The method of claim 90, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide is a stabilized oligonucleotide selected from the group consisting of nonionic DNA analogs, alkylphosphotriesters, and oligonucleotides containing a diol.

146. (New) The method of claim 96, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide is a stabilized oligonucleotide selected from the group consisting of nonionic DNA analogs, alkylphosphotriesters, and oligonucleotides containing a diol.

147. (New) The method of claim 90, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide comprises the formula:



wherein the C and G are unmethylated and wherein X_1 , X_2 , X_3 and X_4 are nucleotides.

148. (New) The method of claim 147, wherein the formula is preceded on the 5' end by a T.

149. (New) The method of claim 90, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide is administered by an oral route.

150. (New) The method of claim 90, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide is administered in an oligonucleotide delivery complex.

151. (New) The method of claim 150, wherein the oligonucleotide delivery complex is selected from the group consisting of a sterol and a lipid.